

U. S. Patent Application No. 09/767,922

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4 and 5 are amended herein. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-5 will be pending in the application.

Claims 1-5

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-3 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,172,361 (Holberg) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,266,197 (Glenn).

Claims 1-3 recite an image pickup device comprising a light-transmissible board formed from a light transmitting material having a wiring pattern formed on one surface of the board and containing an optical filter disposed on the board for filtering light transmitted through the light transmitting material of the board. The claims also recite that the module comprises an image pickup element.

Claim 4 recites a camera module comprising a light-transmissible board formed from a light transmitting material having a wiring pattern formed on one surface of the board and containing an optical filter disposed on the board for filtering light transmitted through the light transmitting material of the board. The claim also recites that the module comprises an image pickup element and a lens holder unit.

Claim 5 recites a camera system using a camera module comprising a light-transmissible board formed from a light transmitting material having a wiring pattern formed on one surface of the board and containing an optical filter disposed on the board for filtering light transmitted through the light transmitting material of the board. The claim also recites that the module comprises an image pickup element and a lens holder unit.

In contrast to the claims, Holberg discloses an imager comprising a support structure having an aperture that permits light to pass through the board to an array. Holberg does not disclose an image pickup device comprising a light-transmissible board formed from a light transmitting material as recited in the claims. Glenn discloses a image sensor package comprising a substrate having an image sensor disposed over the image sensor. However, Glenn does not disclose a camera module comprising a light-transmissible board formed from a light transmitting material as recited in the claims.

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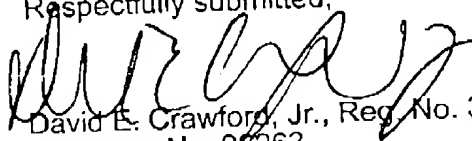
transmitting material. Because neither of the cited references disclose this feature, the combination of the references cannot disclose this feature. By forming the light-transmissible board from a light transmitting material and disposing an optical filter on the board, the overall thickness of the device is reduced compared to the device that would be produced by combining Holberg and Glenn. Because neither of the references discloses an image pickup device comprising a light-transmissible board formed from a light transmitting material, the combined references do not render the subject claims obvious. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the Section 103 rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

As it is believed the application is in condition for allowance, favorable action and Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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